

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LONDON 05117 301051Z

ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03
/043 W

-----310144Z 048961 /22

R 291429Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2036

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LONDON 05117

ROME FOR RCAA; BRUSSELS FOR FAA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, BEXP

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: GULF AIR

REF: (A) MANAMA 713; (B) KARACHI 930

1. DURING INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS WITH CIVIL AIR ATTACHE IN LONDON MARCH 24, SAMI GAYED (QATAR - PRESIDENT OF HIGH AVIATION COUNCIL) PROVIDED HIS VIEWS ON SOME OF THE ISSUES DISCUSSED IN MANAMA AND KARACHI REFTELS. HE SAID HE HAD LED THE OPPOSITION TO THE GULF AIR/KUWAIT MERGER DURING THE FIRST SERIES OF TALKS BECAUSE KUWAIT HAD LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LONDON 05117 301051Z

INSISTED ON DOMINATING THE COMBINED CARRIER, WANTED TO DROP THE GULF AIR NAME IN FAVOR OF KUWAIT AIRWAYS, AND DEMANDED THAT KUWAIT HOLD A MAJORITY INTEREST IN THE VENTURE. HE SEEMED PLEASED THAT THE SECOND ROUND OF MERGER TALKS (REFTELS) HAD AGAIN REACHED THE SAME CONCLUSION BUT THIS TIME WITHOUT HIS PRESENCE.

2. GAYED SAID IT SEEMS CERTAIN GULF AIR WILL EXERCISE OPTIONS ON ONLY 3 OF 4 ADDITIONAL LOCKHEED 1011S IT HAS BEEN CONSIDERING. ON OTHER POSSIBLE EQUIPMENT PURCHASES' GULF AIR HELICOPTER SUBSIDIARY IS LOOKING FOR REPLACEMENT FOR SIKORSKY S-62S AND QATAR GOVERNMENT WANTS TO BUY AN EXECUTIVE JET. GAYED PREFERS LOCKHEED JET-STAR BECAUSE OF ADVANTAGES OF BUYING FROM MAJOR GULF AIR SUPPLIER BUT IS ALSO CONSIDERING GRUMMAN GULFSTREAM II.

3. QATAR PLANS TO CONSTRUCT AVIATION ACADEMY WERE DESCRIBED BY GAYED. LONG RANGE PLAN IS TO TRAIN GULF LOCALS TO LEVEL AT WHICH THEY CAN HANDLE ALL PHASES OF AIRLINE OPERATIONS. TRAINING AND OPERATION OF ACADEMY WOULD BE UNDER AUSPICES OF INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION (ICAO) PRESUMABLY FUNDED LARGELY BY QATAR GOVERNMENT.

4. GAYED SAID HE WILL LEAVE LONDON APRIL 1 TO VISIT US WEST COAST FOR ABOUT ONE MONTH. WHILE THERE HE WILL OBTAIN MEDICAL TREATMENT AND ALSO MEET WITH AIRCRAFT MANUFACTURERS. IN CONNECTION WITH THIS TRIP, HE SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE INFORMAL TALKS WITH APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS IN WASHINGTON TO SEE IF IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO OBTAIN SERVICE BY US CARRIERS TO POINTS IN GULF NOT PRESENTLY SERVED. IN ADDITION, HE WANTS TO DISCUSS POSSIBILITY OF FUTURE GULF AIR SERVICES TO US. HE SAID GULF AIR WOULD NOT BE IN A POSITION TO FLY THE ATLANTIC FOR AT LEAST THE NEXT SEVERAL YEARS. WE SUGGESTED HE CONTACT MR. STYLES (EB/OA) IF HE HAS AN OPPORTUNITY TO VISIT WASHINGTON.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 LONDON 05117 301051Z

5. GULF AIR, GAYED TOLD US, IS SHIFTING FROM SOLE RELIANCE ON BRITISH CIVIL AIR REGULATIONS (BCAR) TO US FEDERAL AIR REGULATIONS (FAR) FOR MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION OF ITS AIRCRAFT. L-1011S ARE BEING MAINTAINED AND OPERATED IN ACCORDANCE WITH FARs.

SPIERS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CIVIL AVIATION, AIRLINES, BUSINESS MERGERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 29-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LONDON05117
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770109-0808
Format: TEL
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770312/aaaaajus.tel
Line Count: 105
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b1ab01b0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 MANAMA 713, 77 KARACHI 930
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2966827
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CIVAIR: GULF AIR
TAGS: EAIR, BEXP, BA, UK, KU, GULF AIR, KUWAIT AIRWAYS
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b1ab01b0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009